

(Mr. INGLIS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### 100TH OCCASION OF THE THANKSGIVING DAY RACE IN CINCINNATI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. SCHMIDT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th occasion of the Thanksgiving Day Race in Cincinnati. According to Runner's World magazine, the Thanksgiving Day Race is the sixth-oldest in the Nation. This annual holiday tradition started in 1908 on a course that ran from Fort Thomas Kentucky's gym to the YMCA in downtown Cincinnati. Today the course continues to incorporate much of downtown Cincinnati and northern Kentucky, beginning and ending at Paul Brown Stadium.

The growth of this race has been impressive. The inaugural race in 1908 consisted of 19 participants. Last year there were more than 11,000. To date, over 16,000 have registered for this year's Thanksgiving Day race, and registration doesn't even close until the race morning. According to Running USA, Cincinnati's Thanksgiving Day 10K race is one of our nation's 10 largest. Each year highly skilled athletes run alongside casual runners and seniors run alongside children. For many families the race is an important part of their holiday festivities. While the race is certainly popular, it would not be successful without the sponsorship and support of the local community. Hundreds of folks volunteer along the course aiding the runners. Local businesses and community organizations provide monetary support whose proceeds benefit many local charities, including the Ronald McDonald House and Girls on the Run.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the 100th Occasion of the Thanksgiving Day race in Cincinnati and wish this proud Cincinnati tradition continued success.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### SUFFERING OF THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF CUBA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, the international press, including almost all the press in the United States, continues

to ignore the suffering of the oppressed people of Cuba. Yes, there are exceptions, such as the National Review's Jay Nordlinger, the premier defender of human rights in the American press, or The Miami Herald's Juan Tamayo or Wilfredo Cancio, and occasionally there are other dignified exceptions. But the almost totality of the U.S. press systematically ignores what goes on in Cuba.

Despite 50 years of tyranny there, despite Cuba being 90 miles from our shores, despite hundreds of prisoners of conscience languishing in dungeons simply because of their peaceful advocacy for freedoms, including freedom of the press, which should not be denied to any people, and thousands of others imprisoned for crimes which are only illegal in the totalitarian fiefdom of a demented despot—crimes like “dangerousness” or “illegally attempting to leave the country”—the press continues to ignore the reality of Cuba. Their irresponsibility in doing so is absolutely indefensible.

Jewish friends have told me that they understand what I'm talking about when I refer to the concept of the nonperson. For countless generations, for 1,800 years, Jews were subject to exile, to pogroms, persecution, discrimination. And their suffering was ignored in countries throughout the world. They were nonpersons. When their suffering was not ignored it was often minimized or ridiculed. Jews know that the recovery of their homeland, the establishment of their state in 1948 was absolutely necessary. That was the only way to guarantee the end of the nonperson status, to guarantee an end to pogroms, to discrimination, to persecution.

Cubans have been stateless nonpersons for over 51 years. Their suffering is systematically ignored. Their unity of purpose is continuously questioned or ridiculed. Even the torture of their heroes, of the heroic political prisoners, is ignored. Martha Beatriz Roque, a respected economist, leading Cuban dissident and former political prisoner who was only released from prison so that she would not die due to her many illnesses in prison and embarrass Castro, she is close to death in Havana due to complications arising from a hunger strike that she's engaged in.

Dozens of other brave dissidents are also on hunger strikes in the home of one of Cuba's other extremely respected pro-democracy leaders, Vladimiro Roca. Cubans, unlike the Jews, have not yet recovered their state. They will. But they haven't yet.

I ask the press, Madam Speaker, the media to please cease treating Cuba's pro-democracy activists as though they didn't exist. Stop treating Martha Beatriz Roque as a nonperson. Why do you continue to absolutely ignore Cuba's brave prisoners of conscience? Why don't you at least write about the elderly prisoners of conscience in Cuba, such as Hector Maseda Gutierrez or

Arnaldo Ramos Lauzurique, or about the severely handicapped prisoners of conscience such as Miguel Galvan Gutierrez, or most especially about the gravely ill Cuban prisoners of conscience in the gulag such as Ariel Sigler or Normando Hernandez or Dr. Jose Luis Garcia Paneque, or Dr. Alfredo Pulido Lopez, or Pedro Arguelles Moran?

Members of the press, have you no conscience? Do not continue to treat the suffering oppressed people of Cuba and their heroes as nonpersons. Please, do your duty.

#### THE NEEDS OF AMERICAN WOMEN AND THE 111TH CONGRESS' RESPONSE TO THOSE NEEDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend and to enter remarks into the RECORD on this topic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus is proud to offer this special order tonight which will focus on the needs of American women and the response of the 111th Congress to those needs.

The Congressional Black Caucus, the CBC, is chaired by the Honorable BARBARA LEE from the Ninth Congressional District of California. I am Representative MARCIA L. FUDGE from the 11th Congressional District of Ohio. Madam Speaker, we have been joined by our Chairwoman, the gentlelady from California, the Honorable BARBARA LEE. I now yield to our Chair.

Ms. LEE of California. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. And let me thank again the Representative from Ohio, Congresswoman MARCIA FUDGE, for her leadership and for continuing to voice the concerns of so many who may or may not have a voice in this House. And I want to thank you for tonight's Special Order on the needs of American women, because in this economic downturn, where women still only make about 66 cents to the dollar, women again are feeling the brunt of these very, very desperate times. And so thank you again for continuing to keep our Congressional Black Caucus focused on addressing issues that don't always receive the attention that they deserve. Thank you, Congresswoman FUDGE.

So let me just talk very briefly about the issue of adolescent health and the challenges that many young women and girls face in accessing the tools and information they need to really just take care of themselves. For too